

**Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations
Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2014**

DRAFT

A meeting of the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (the JLC) was held on December 18, 2014, at the American Legion Building, 1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond.

Members Present

- Brett Reistad, American Legion
- Donald Kaiserman, Association of the United States Army
- Abe Zino, Fleet Reserve Association
- John Edwards, Korean War Veterans Association
- John Prendergast, Marine Corps League
- Stuart Williams, Military Officers Association of America
- Robert Fairchild, Military Order of the Purple Heart
- William Barrett, Military Order of the World Wars
- Thomas Moran, National Association for Uniformed Services
- Glenn Rodriguez, Navy Seabee Veterans of America
- Matthew Dailey, Non Commissioned Officers Association
- David Coffield, Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Carmen Gentile, Reserve Officers Association
- Thomas Gimble, Veterans of Foreign Wars
- George Corbett, Vietnam Veterans of America
- Robert Huffman, Virginia Army/Air National Guard Enlisted Association
- Shawn Otto, Virginia National Guard Association
- Marie Juliano, Women Marines Association
- Thad Jones, representing the Board of Veterans Services
- Rich Schollmann, Chairman, Veterans Services Foundation
- John L. Newby II, Commissioner of Veterans Services

Members Absent

- Harold Barton, Air Force Association
- Richard Mansfield, AMVETS
- Allan McCroskey, Disabled American Veterans
- Rich Rinaldo, Legion of Valor
- James Clem, Roanoke Valley Veterans Council

Alternates Present (representing their VSO)

- Jeffrey Platte, Air Force Association
- Curtis Jennings, Disabled American Veterans

Alternates Present (not representing their VSO)

- Vic Pena, MOAA
- John Velleca, Virginia National Guard Association
- Dan Dennison, National Association for Uniformed Services

Commonwealth of Virginia Officials Present

- Jaime Areizaga-Soto, Deputy Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs
- Leslie Frazier, Office of the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs
- Bryce Reeves, Senate of Virginia
- Al Pianalto, Office of Delegate Kirk Cox
- Matt Leary, Department of Motor Vehicles
- Steven Combs, Department of Veterans Services (DVS)
- Tom Herthel, DVS
- Jack Hilgers, DVS
- Brandi Jancaitis, DVS
- Matthew Leslie, DVS
- Judy Reid, DVS
- Danielle Weaver, DVS
- Donna Williams, DVS

Others Present

- Bill Whitt, Fleet Reserve Association
- John R. Clickener, Marine Corps League Department of Virginia
- Robert Barrett, Virginia Bar Association, Veterans Issues Taskforce
- Delores Corbett

Items included in the Agenda Packet

Agenda (Agenda Item II)

Presentations (Agenda Item V)

- Excerpts from the Executive Budget Document
- Revised JLC 2015 Position Papers and Summary (drafts)

Reports (Agenda Item VI)

- Board of Veterans Services
- Veterans Services Foundation
- Department of Veterans Services

New Business (Agenda Item VI)

- 2015 Meeting Schedule (Proposed)
- 2015 Action Plan (Proposed)
- JLC 2015 Conference at the General Assembly
 - Schedule
 - Guidelines for JLC members
 - Coordinating Instructions
 - Parking Map
 - Sign Up Sheet

Opening and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Thomas “Chip” Moran called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Vice Chairman Brett Reistad led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. George Corbett, JLC Chaplain, gave the invocation and led the Council in a moment of silence in honor of Mr. John Sabatini, former AMVETS Alternate Representative, who passed away November 11, 2014. Mr. Corbett noted that his funeral service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery on February 24, 2015 at 3 p.m. Several Council members made comments in remembrance of Mr. Sabatini. A card was passed around for the Council members to sign to send to Mr. Sabatini’s significant other.

Chairman Moran stated that the American Ex-Prisoners of War would no longer be represented on the JLC, citing a resignation letter from the former representative, Mr. George Coker, about the group’s declining membership. Chairman Moran recognized Mr. Coker for his service to the Nation, the Commonwealth, and the JLC.

Roll Call of VSOs, Quorum Determination, Approval of the Agenda, and Introduction of Guests

The roll was called, and 20 of the 23 Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) represented on the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (the JLC) were recorded as being represented. A quorum was determined. Mr. Thad Jones, representing the Board of Veterans Services (BVS); Mr. Rich Schollmann, the Chairman of the Veterans Services Foundation (VSF); and Commissioner John Newby of the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) were recorded as present.

Mr. David Coffield made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Carmen Gentile, to approve the agenda as presented. The **motion** carried **unanimously** (see Attachment 1).

Chairman Moran asked Mr. Steven Combs to introduce the guests. Their names and organizations are recorded above. Chairman Moran welcomed them to the meeting.

Approve October 15, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Jeffrey Platte made a **motion, seconded** by Vice Chairman Reistad, to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2014 JLC meeting as drafted. The **motion** carried **unanimously**.

Opening Remarks

Chairman Moran reviewed the meeting agenda.

Presentations

Overview of Governor McAuliffe’s proposed budget, JLC 2015 Initiatives, and other legislation

Commissioner Newby and Mr. Combs delivered a presentation that covered Governor McAuliffe’s introduced budget, the JLC 2015 Initiatives, and other budget and legislation. The presentation is not attached to these minutes, but is available on request from DVS.

Commissioner Newby and Mr. Combs were joined for part of the presentation by Mr. Tom Herthel, DVS Benefits Director and Mr. Matthew Leslie, DVS Director of Housing Development for Veterans. Mr. Leslie distributed the *DVS Ending Veterans Homelessness Update – December 2014*. Mrs. Brandi Jancaitis, Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) Executive Director, provided information about VWWP.

Governor McAuliffe's introduced budget includes funding for three JLC initiatives:

- JLC/BVS 2015-01, DVS Veterans Service Representatives and Benefits Offices: Governor's introduced budget adds \$1,750,201 (General Fund – GF) to fill five positions at understaffed Benefits Offices, convert 13 administrative positions to veterans service representatives (claims agents), and implement a career development program;
- JLC 2015-04, Virginia Homeless Veterans Programs: Governor's introduced budget adds \$180,000 (GF) for three housing specialists in VWWP regions (one each for Northern Virginia, Southwest Virginia, and Hampton Roads) and \$1,000,000 (GF) for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for rapid re-housing of the homeless in Virginia (including veterans);
- JLC 2015-06, Veterans Care Centers: Governor's introduced budget would increase the state funding commitment (35% of project costs) for the planned veterans care centers in Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia. New state commitment would be \$32,640,481 (Hampton Roads) and \$33,912,198 (Northern Virginia).

Governor McAuliffe's introduced budget also includes funding for:

- Virginia Values Veterans Program (V3) and the Veteran Transition Assistance Program (VTAP): \$474,000 (GF) and \$100,000 (Non General Fund – NGF) to support the hiring of veterans by V3 companies and support the transition of veterans from military service to civilian education, training, or employment in the Virginia workforce;
- \$67,090 (GF) for the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP) and \$42,000 (NGF) for G.I. Bill Program Certification to allow DVS to ensure continued access to post-secondary education and training for veterans and families under the federal G.I. Bill program and the state VMSDEP;
- Authority for DVS to apply for federal grant funding to add columbariums (above-ground cremated remain burial sites) at the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk.

Commissioner Newby and Mr. Robert Barrett, Virginia Bar Association, Veterans Issues Taskforce, reviewed the slides on the creation of veterans dockets in the Virginia court system. Mr. Barrett also distributed copies of a more in-depth version of the presentation.

Senator Bryce Reeves reviewed the proposed legislation related to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

Mr. Combs covered three bills related to veteran employment and the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program and the Virginia Transition Assistance Program (VTAP), as well as other legislation, including the military student/child identifier.

Mr. Stuart Williams made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Abe Zino, that the JLC support and

endorse the three employment bills, the veterans docket (problem-solving courts) bill, and the military child/student identifier bill. The **motion** carried **unanimously**.

Chairman Moran was asked to write letters to the patrons of each bill expressing the endorsement and support of the JLC. He agreed to do so.

Revisions to JLC 2015 Position Papers

Chairman Moran stated that the JLC 2015 Position Papers had been updated to include specific dollar figures, updated information, and Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) data where available. He also noted that the revised papers reflected that the JLC now had 23 member VSOs vs. 24.

Chairman Moran proposed that the revised position papers be adopted as presented, with the exception of JLC 2015-05 (*Alternate Revenue Sources for Veterans Programs and Services*), which he proposed be dropped as a JLC 2015 Initiative.

Mr. John Prendergast made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Zino, that the JLC drop JLC 2015-05 and adopt the other revised position papers as presented.

Much discussion ensued, and it was the opinion of the majority of the Council members that JLC 2015-05 should remain a JLC 2015 Initiative. Mr. Prendergast withdrew his motion.

Mr. Tom Gimble made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Corbett, that the six revised JLC 2015 Position Papers be approved as presented.

Mr. Williams stated that a correction was needed to JLC 2015-02, *Virginia Wounded Warrior Program*, Paragraph 4 – that the amount should be \$281,000 (GF) instead of \$387,000 (GF). Commissioner Newby added that the revised figure was based on extensive work by Mrs. Jancaitis and her staff.

Mr. Gimble made a **substitute motion, seconded** by Mr. Robert Fairchild, that the six revised JLC 2015 Position Papers be approved as presented, but with the revised figure of \$281,000 in JLC 2015-02. The **motion** carried **unanimously**.

Compact with Virginia's Veterans

Mr. Combs briefly reviewed the Compact with Virginia's Veterans, noting that the 2014 Annual Update was excerpted from the DVS Commissioner's FY14 Annual Report, and included all of the initiatives adopted by the JLC.

Mr. Gimble made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Bill Barrett, that the JLC approve and endorse the 2014 Annual Update as presented. The **motion** carried **unanimously**.

Reports

Board of Veterans Services

Mr. Thad Jones gave the Board of Veterans Services (BVS) report (see [Attachment 2](#)). Chairman Moran thanked Mr. Jones for his report.

Veterans Services Foundation

Veterans Services Foundation (VSF) Chairman Rich Schollmann gave the VSF report (see *Attachment 3*). Chairman Moran thanked Mr. Schollmann for his report.

Virginia Military Advisory Council

Chairman Moran provided a brief summary of the December 12, 2014 meeting of the Virginia Military Advisory Council (VMAC), noting that the focus of the meeting was on education.

Department of Veterans Services

Commissioner John Newby delivered the report of the Department of Veterans Services (see *Attachment 4*). Chairman Moran thanked Commissioner Newby for his report.

New Business

Approve 2015 Meeting Schedule

Mr. John Edwards made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Gimble, to approve the JLC 2015 Meeting Schedule as presented. The **motion** carried **unanimously**. (See *Attachment 5* for the approved schedule).

Approve 2015 Action Plan

Mr. Gimble made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Robert Huffman, to approve the JLC 2015 Action Plan as presented. The **motion** carried **unanimously**. (See *Attachment 6* for the approved action plan).

Prepare the JLC 2015 Conference at the General Assembly

Mr. Jack Hilgers, Conference Coordinator, called the Council members' attention to the handouts, included in the agenda packet, related to the JLC 2015 Conference at the General Assembly on January 15, 2015. He reviewed the schedule, guidelines, coordinating instructions, and sign-up procedures. He noted that he would distribute all of the handouts by e-mail to the members following the meeting, and asked that those planning to attend the conference return the sign-up sheets to him by January 9.

Care Center Presentation

Mr. Combs delivered a presentation on veterans care center projects in Virginia, covering the following topics: construction funding; application for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) grant funding (65% of project costs); state funding commitment (35% of project costs); annual funding certification; VA Priority Group 1; number of beds; legislation – 2015 General Assembly; rising construction costs; and the increased state funding commitment.

The presentation is not attached to these minutes, but is available on request from DVS.

Other New Business and open discussion

Mr. Don Kaiserman raised the issue of the federal Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, which he noted was considering closing military commissaries. He stated that this would be a loss of yet one more military benefit to active duty military service

members and retirees and the closures could present a financial hardship for some active duty service members.

Discussion ensued over the proper role and authority of the JLC, a state-appointed Council, regarding this issue; the scope of the issue and the number of Virginia veterans affected – retirees vs. all veterans; and the proper channels for the JLC to express a “sense of the Council” regarding this issue.

Mr. Kaiserman made a **motion, seconded** by Mr. Shawn Otto, that the JLC Chairman write a letter to the Department of Veterans Services, for relay to Virginia’s Congressional Delegation through the Secretary of Veteran and Defense Affairs and the Governor, expressing the sense of the JLC that the closure of military commissaries would represent the loss of a benefit earned by active duty service members and military retirees, and could present potential financial hardships for some active duty service members. The **motion** carried **by majority vote**.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Closing Remarks

Chairman Moran encouraged all JLC representatives and alternates to attend the JLC 2015 Conference at the General Assembly on Thursday, January 15, 2015.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

ATTACHMENT 1
Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations
American Legion Building
1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond
December 18, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 1:50 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (10:00 – 10:05)
- II. Roll call of VSOs, quorum determination, approval of agenda and introduction of guests – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (10:05 – 10:10)
- III. Approve October 15, 2014 meeting minutes – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (10:10 – 10:15)
- IV. Opening remarks – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (10:15 – 10:20)
- V. Presentations (10:20 – 11:40)
 - a. Overview of Governor McAuliffe’s proposed budget, JLC 2015 Initiatives, and other legislation – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman; John Newby, Commissioner; and DVS Directors* (60 minutes)
 - b. Revisions to JLC 2015 Position Papers – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (10 minutes)
 - c. Compact with Virginia’s Veterans – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (10 minutes)
- VI. Reports (11:40 – 12:00)
 - a. Board of Veterans Services – *Johnny Johnson, BVS Vice Chairman* (5 minutes)
 - b. Veterans Services Foundation – *Rich Schollmann, VSF Chairman* (5 minutes)
 - c. Virginia Military Advisory Council – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (5 minutes)
 - d. Department of Veterans Services – *John Newby, Commissioner* (5 minutes)
- Lunch (12:00 – 12:45)
- VII. New business (12:45 – 1:30)
 - a. Approve 2015 Meeting Schedule – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (5 minutes)
 - b. Approve 2015 Action Plan – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (5 minutes)
 - c. Prepare for JLC 2015 Conference at the General Assembly – *Jack Hilgers, Conference Coordinator* (10 minutes)
 - d. Care Center presentation – *Steven Combs, DVS Director of Policy & Planning* (10 minutes)
 - e. Other New Business and open discussion – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (15 minutes)
- VIII. Public comment period (1:30 – 1:40)
- IX. Closing remarks – *Chip Moran, JLC Chairman* (1:40 – 1:50)
- X. Adjourn (1:50)

ATTACHMENT 2

BOARD OF VETERANS SERVICES (BVS) REPORT TO THE JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (JLC) OF VETERANS SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS December 18, 2014

The Board of Veterans Services (BVS) has not met since the last meeting of the JLC on October 15, 2014.

The BVS Benefits Committee will meet on Monday, December 22 at 10 a.m. at the Virginia War Memorial. Much of the meeting will be dedicated to an in-depth briefing and review of the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) Benefit Services section.

No meetings are currently scheduled for the BVS Care Centers or Cemeteries Committees, but the BVS will alert the JLC when meetings are scheduled so that the JLC may continue to send a representative. The JLC members bring valuable input to the BVS committees and play an integral role in committee operations.

The BVS will hold its first meeting of 2015 on January 12 at 10 a.m. at the Virginia War Memorial. Other scheduled meetings are May 12, July 21, and October 26.

I know I speak for all of the Board when I say how much we look forward to our continued partnership with the JLC in 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Johnny G. Johnson
Vice Chairman

ATTACHMENT 3

VETERANS SERVICES FOUNDATION REPORT TO Joint Leadership Council (JLC) of Veterans Service Organizations December 18, 2014

The Veterans Services Foundation (VSF) Board of Trustees has held one meeting since the last JLC meeting. A meeting was held on November 5, 2014 with a quorum present and the Development and Finance Committees met before the Board meeting. The following events occurred and actions taken at the meeting, in addition to the usual reports and updates on VWWP and V3.

- (1) Reviewed Foundation income, expenses, and fundraising events conducted during FY15;
- (2) Approved the 1st Quarter FY15 VSF Financial Reports;
- (3) Approved VSF FY15 Goals and Objectives;
- (4) Approved changes to VSF-DVS Joint Policies #6, 6A, 7, 8, 9, and 10;
- (5) Approved appointing new member Kathleen Levingston to the Development Committee;

As of 15 December, the Foundation has received donations during FY15 of about \$335,000, of which over \$204,000 is for VWWP. This includes significant funds for V3; \$100,000 from Altria and \$10,000 from Dominion Resources as contained in the last VSF report to the JLC. As always, the Foundation extends its sincere congratulations to the outstanding outreach of all DVS activities to realize this significant fundraising level. It could not have been accomplished without the dedication of all DVS personnel.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2015 at the Virginia War Memorial. Items for the next meeting may include: (1) approval of the Second Quarter FY15 Financial Statement and budget adjustments, if any; (2) approval of the review and update of VSF-DVS Joint Policy #9; (3) refine a new draft policy on charitable bequests/planned giving; (4) review and update of the VSF Bylaws and Joint DVS-VSF Memorandum of Understanding; (5) review VSF FY15 fundraising program and projections; (6) elect a nomination committee for FY16 officers; and (7) confirm meeting date and locations of 2015 Board meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Schollmann
VSF Chairman

ATTACHMENT 4



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Veterans Services

John L. Newby II
Commissioner

Telephone: (804) 786-0286
Fax: (804) 786-0302

Memorandum for: Chairman Chip Moran
Members, Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations

From: John L. Newby II, Commissioner

Date: December 18, 2014

Subject: Department of Veterans Services report

On December 1, 2014, I submitted my first Commissioner's Annual Report to the Governor and General Assembly. I was proud to report to them, and am proud to report to you, on just some of the results achieved by your Department of Veterans Services (DVS) in FY2014:

- Filed 23,241 disability compensation claims on behalf of Virginia veterans and families, directly enabling the recoupment of **\$2.3 billion** in federal compensation and disability payments to our veterans in FFY13.
- Delivered 5,606 discrete supportive services to veterans and their families through the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program.
- Approved 1,122 educational program offerings for the G.I. Bill program, thus expanding educational opportunities for veterans using their G.I. Bill benefits. Virginia veterans received more than **\$872 million** in G.I. Bill benefits in FFY13.
- Facilitated the employment of 3,225 Virginia veterans through the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program.
- Provided 130,670 patient days of care at the Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond and the Virginia Veterans Care Center in Roanoke.

- Performed 1,464 burials at Virginia's three state veterans cemeteries.
- Honored Virginia's fallen by hosting 65,692 visitors at the Virginia War Memorial, a new single-year record.

Even with all we have accomplished, DVS will not rest on its laurels in Fiscal Year 2015. For instance, design work is underway for the expansion of the Virginia War Memorial. Our Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center is scheduled to complete construction of a 40-bed addition this year, and we look forward to providing skilled care to more Virginia veterans.

DVS continues to enjoy the strong support of the Governor, the members of the Virginia General Assembly, and the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs. We are honored that they have made our veterans a top priority, and we look forward to continuing our work in 2015 as we continue to make Virginia the most veteran-friendly state in the nation.

With the additional funding included in Governor McAuliffe's introduced budget, your Department of Veterans Services is poised to do great things in FY2016:

- Benefit Services: Add five positions at understaffed offices; convert 13 administrative positions to veterans service representatives; implement a career development plan for all staff to strengthen recruitment, hiring, training, and retention; and open two new benefit offices;
- Add three new housing resource specialist positions in Virginia Wounded Warrior Program regions to help us achieve and sustain the goal of ending veterans homelessness by the end of 2015;
- Put veterans to work in the new Virginia economy through the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) program;
- Help our veterans make the transition from military service to civilian life, and connect with employment, training, and educational opportunities through the Virginia Transition Assistance Program; and
- Continue to ensure that our veterans and their families have access to education and training opportunities through G.I. Bill and the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program.

We will need your strong advocacy during the 2015 General Assembly session to accomplish all that we have set out to do. Advocate, in a non-partisan manner and on behalf of our 800,000 veterans and their family members, for the resources DVS needs to achieve our goals in FY2016 and beyond. Then, throughout the year, keep up with what is happening. Ask tough questions, set high expectations, and demand results. Hold us accountable. And if we need additional resources to get the job done, help us get them.

We could not ask for better partners than the JLC. Thank you all that you do.

ATTACHMENT 5

2015 Meeting Schedule **Adopted December 18, 2014**

Day/Date	Time	Type of Meeting	Location
Thursday, January 15	9 a.m.	JLC Conference at the General Assembly	GAB (morning), CAP (afternoon)
Wednesday, March 18	10 a.m.	Regular Business Meeting	ALB
Wednesday, May 20	10 a.m.	Regular Business Meeting	ALB
Wednesday, July 15	10 a.m.	Regular Business Meeting	VWM
Wednesday, October 21	10 a.m.	Regular Business Meeting	ALB
Wednesday, December 16*	10 a.m.	Regular Business Meeting	ALB
Thursday, January 14, 2016	9 a.m.	JLC Conference at the General Assembly	GAB (morning), CAP (afternoon)

* Date is tentative. May be rescheduled depending on the release date of the Governor's introduced budget

Key to locations

GAB = General Assembly Building, SE corner of Broad and 9th Streets, Richmond

CAP = State Capitol Building, 1000 Bank St, Richmond

ALB = American Legion Building, 1708 Commonwealth Ave, Richmond

VWM = Virginia War Memorial, 621 S. Belvidere St, Richmond

ATTACHMENT 6

JLC 2015 Action Plan **Adopted December 18, 2014**

January 15 Conference at the General Assembly

- Advocate for 2015 JLC and BVS Initiatives
- Promote role of JLC, BVS, DVS, etc.

Before March 18 meeting

- New JLC representative/alternate orientation (as required)

March 18 meeting

- 2015 General Assembly review (legislation, budget)
- Look ahead to 2016 General Assembly: initial review and discussion of potential 2016 JLC Initiatives
- Report of the Constitution and By-Laws Review Committee (annual review)

NLT April 30

- JLC members submit potential 2016 JLC Initiatives for discussion at May 20 meeting.
NOTE: Must be in JLC Position Paper format

NLT May 7

- Potential 2016 JLC Initiatives distributed to JLC members for review
- JLC members share potential 2016 JLC Initiatives with their VSO leadership and others in their VSO to solicit feedback, comment, additional ideas, etc.

May 20 meeting

- Continued review and discussion of potential 2016 JLC Initiatives
- Review of prior-year JLC initiatives and current status
- Appoint Nominating Committee

NLT June 25

- JLC members submit potential 2016 JLC Initiatives for discussion at July 15 meeting.
NOTE: Must be in JLC Position Paper format

NLT July 2

- Potential initiatives distributed to JLC members for review
- JLC members share potential 2016 JLC Initiatives with their VSO leadership and others in their VSO to solicit feedback, comment, additional ideas, etc.

July 15 meeting

- New JLC representative/alternate orientation
- Review and discuss all proposed 2016 JLC Initiatives

- Adopt and prioritize 2016 JLC Initiatives
- Appoint JLC sponsors
- Elect Chair and Vice Chair

NLT July 30

- JLC Chair appoints JLC Appointed Officers (who will serve in an acting capacity until approved by the Council at the October 21 meeting)
- Legislative Officer forms Legislative Operations Committee
- Legislative Operations Committee finalizes JLC Position Papers
- Distribute Position Papers to JLC and post on JLC website
- Submit initiatives to Governor McAuliffe through DVS

October 21 meeting

- Legislative Operations Committee recommends General Assembly Patrons for the JLC to recommend to the Governor
- Prepare for meetings with General Assembly members
- Approve JLC Appointed Officers for 2015-2016
- Ratify the Compact with Virginia's Veterans

October/November/December

- Submit recommended patrons to Governor McAuliffe through DVS
- Meet with General Assembly members
- Hold legislative forums

December 16 meeting (tentative). Could be rescheduled depending on the release date of the Governor's introduced budget

- Review Governor's Proposed Budget
- Report on General Assembly Patrons
- Plan for 2016 Conference at the General Assembly
- Adopt 2016 meeting schedule
- Adopt 2016 Action Plan